



COMPARTMENT REVIEW RECORD OF CHANGES AND DECISIONS

Escanaba Forest Management Unit

2009 Year-of-Entry

Heirman Center, Bay College, Escanaba, MI

October 22, 2007

The following documents the changes and decisions made at the compartment review to the Inventory database, reports, and compartment maps presented at open house, for the Escanaba Forest Management Unit compartment review. This document is the official record of changes and decisions. Proposals originally presented were approved unless noted below.

Attendees

Dan Racine, FMFM; Eric Thompson, FMFM; Dan Moore, FMFM; Bill Rollo, Wildlife, Wildlife; Mike Koss, WLD; Craig Albright, Wildlife; Bob Doepker, Wildlife; Penny Melchoir, Wildlife; Bill Scullon, Wildlife; Carol Porter, FMFM; Don Kuhr, FMFM; Dale McNamee, Legislative Aide; Kelly Standerfer, FMFM; Dan McNamee, FMFM; Dustin Salter, FMFM; Joe Durbin, FMFM; Richard Stevenson, FMFM; Mike Paluda, FMFM; Bob Heyd, FMFM; John Hamel, FMFM; Warren Suchovsky, Suchoysky Logging.

Comments from Stakeholders

Open House at the Menominee Co. Annex Bldg September 18, 2007 – 11 visitors came to view maps and data and discuss prescriptions with staff and one written comment was received.

Comments were provided by:

Attached is a summary of the comments received at the Open House

Compartment 2

Discussion of comments from individual outside parties:

- None

Changes made at compartment review:

- No Changes

Compartment 9

Discussion of comments from individual outside parties:

- None

Changes made at compartment review:

- Stand 47, remove stand from SCA status

Compartment 16

Discussion of comments from individual outside parties:

- None

Changes made at compartment review:

- Stand 66, will remain as SCA-old growth.

Compartment 18

Discussion of comments from individual outside parties:

- None

Changes made at compartment review:

- Stand 34 and 75, stand treatment to be determined at District level by 12/15/07 Remove treatments from both of these stands for this decade. (approved 11/2/07)
- Stand 27, MNFI Cooper's Milk Vetch hit. Will contact MNFI for any additional specifications to protect species.

Compartment 28

Discussion of comments from individual outside parties:

- None

Changes made at compartment review:

- Stands 8 and 20, stand treatment to be determined at District level by 12/15/07
 - Stand 8, We met with wildlife division after the comp review to discuss the three oak stands that were still unresolved after the review. We decided to hold off the treatments for the other two oak stands this decade and we would treat this stand this decade. Prior to the meeting with wildlife we went out with Don to do a regen survey of this stand. This survey showed that the west half of the stand had more established oak regen already established. Based on this survey it was decided to lower the BA down to 30 to 40 on the portion of this stand that is west of the Oak Hill Road. We would concentrate on releasing the existing oak regen. And on the area east of Oak Hill Road we will lower the BA down to 50 to 60. This area did not have the established oak regen that the other half did. So it was decided that we would open up the stand to allow sunlight in to begin to establish some oak regeneration. And on the south end of this half where there is more oak regen already present we would concentrate on releasing it. It was decided to put an emphasis on retaining the majority of white oak, mostly because of its resistance to oak wilt and the fact its roots will not graph on to red oak roots. While doing the survey I found about 10 new possible oak wilt epi-centers. If funding is available in 2008 we will try to treat these pockets. Also it was decided to try and set back the existing maple stump sprouts, to allow room and sunshine for the oak regen. This will either be done by DNR staff hand cutting the maple clumps or make it part of the timber sale to have a contractor do it. Another alternative would be for us to herbicide the maple clumps. (Approved 11/2/07)
 - Stand 20, Remove treatment from this stand for this decade. (Approved 11/2/07)
- Stands 33, remove stand from SCA status
- Stands 6, 7, 13 and 43, stand treatments of scarification and oak planting to be done

Compartment 53

Discussion of comments from individual outside parties:

- None

Changes made at compartment review:

- No Changes

Compartment 59

Discussion of comments from individual outside parties:

- None

Changes made at compartment review:

- No Changes

Compartment 77

Discussion of comments from individual outside parties:

- None

Changes made at compartment review:

- Add ORV symbol on Map

Compartment 90

Discussion of comments from individual outside parties:

- None

Changes made at compartment review:

- No Changes

Compartment 95

Discussion of comments from individual outside parties:

- None

Changes made at compartment review:

- Stands 30 and 34, SCA boundaries will be re-drawn between stands

Compartment 110

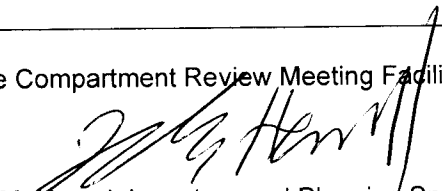
Discussion of comments from individual outside parties:

- None

Changes made at compartment review:

- No Changes

As the Compartment Review Meeting Facilitator, I certify that the above changes were agreed upon.


John M. Hamel, Inventory and Planning Specialist

October 22, 2007

Escanaba Forest Management Unit

YOE 2009

Public Open House Written Comments

September 18, 2007

Compartment or Topic: Compartment 9

Area (24-Q6-248) is vital winter habitat for whitetails and should not be cut at all. A lot of mature aspen should be harvested.

Compartment or Topic: Compartment 16

I suggest that eight-wheel [equipment] would give better, more consistent results in regard to rutting. Six-wheel [equipment] is better than four-wheel, but rear wheels go down pretty easily.

Compartment or Topic: Compartment 18

If there is an opportunity to do some oak management in this compartment, it should be done. Saving the oak as a "sacred tree" has produced the mess we have in the Shakey Lakes area. Reproduction cuts should be done while you still have a healthy oak resource.

What is oak health? How much pin oak versus n. red oak? Is any oak regeneration present? What kind of bridge? Temporary or permanent? How will bridge impact sportsmen's objectives? What about unwanted ORV traffic, pickup trucks?

Compartment or Topic: Compartment 28

I believe the oak resource has been mismanaged for the past thirty years. The State needs to have some reproduction cuts to start getting some age group diversity. If we would have had systematic cuttings in the past, maybe we wouldn't have the oak wilt mess we have now on state land.

Compartment or Topic: Compartment 110

Three parcels along the Escanaba River are listed for disposal. I'm concerned about taking good productive forest land and converting it to development. Perhaps, if sold, a conservation easement should go with the land. It appears that public access for hunting and fishing would be a problem currently. I suspect that some of these areas might have plant species of concern.

Compartment or Topic: All Compartments

How do we consider climate change? Forest Types? Other Plant communities? Animal communities?

Compartment or Topic: Linnbeck Lake Trail

Menominee County Pheasant Club is interested in planting the trail by Linnbeck Lake.



October 10, 2007

To: Eric Thompson / Michigan Department of Natural Resources

From: Thomas A. Jacobs / Procurement Manager - LP Corp, Sagola, MI

Subject: Compartment Review of Escanaba Forest Management Unit

Mr. Thompson:

First of all I want to thank you for giving the opportunity to review and comment on the proposed forest management treatments for 2009 in Compartments: 2, 9, 16, 18, 28, 53, 59, 77, 90, 95 & 110 of the Escanaba Forest Management Unit.

Secondly, I am aware that DNR personal inventory and evaluate one-tenth of the state forest each year resulting in designing management activities to ensure sustainability of the resources and ecosystems.

Third, Louisiana Pacific Corporation is a SFI Certified Company, promoting & encouraging the practicing of sustainable forestry.

My comments and concerns are as follows:

- I feel that the Michigan State Forest needs to be managed more intensely to assist in creating a more productive and healthy forest in terms of wood, water, recreation and wildlife.
 - I am **not in favor** of entering a Management unit only once every 10 years.
 - Each stand of timber should be managed more independently to ensure maximum growth and a healthy forest.
 - Allow entry of forest stands before the ten year entry period to enable salvage of dying or dead trees from insect or disease that may have been prevented if managed more intensely to begin with. Examples are, dead and dying Spruce/Fir from Budworm damage. Many times a healthy vigorous stand of Spruce/Fir can recover from Budworm damage but not mature to over-mature stands.
- I support the harvest of all aspen at or above 50 years of age or a rotation age based upon site index data. It appears that the harvest of over-mature aspen in the above mentioned compartments is finally catching up in the next 9 years.
- Even though there are plans to harvest most of the over-mature stands of aspen, this will be done in the next 9 years which is too long for most of the over-mature stands.
- It has been mentioned several times that some over-mature aspen will not be harvested to enable age distribution. I am in favor of harvesting a stand of aspen or other species earlier rather than later to get to a desired age distribution. Leaving over-mature stands results in poorer quality wood, unhealthy stands, regeneration deficiencies and loss of wood volume that a new stand will generate.

- I feel that most stands of timber must be managed based upon sound silvicultural practices that have been proven by scientific data. It is very important that the management treatments are prescribed and completed sooner the better.
- Field personal must be made available to ensure complete management treatment in a proper time frame.
- I am in favor of maintaining the aspen acreage within the Compartments mentioned above.
- Small acreages of aspen regeneration can succumb to severe deer browsing causing the stand to decrease in size or destroy it permanently. I am in favor of larger aspen regeneration harvests to assist in decreasing deer damage intensity. I am also in favor of harvesting more deer.

In closing I am in favor of improving the overall efficiency of the forest management program with the key items being lower costs, increasing the amount of acres treated annually, and increasing fiber supply volume.

Thanks again for accepting my comments,

Thomas A. Jacobs
Procurement Manager
LP-Sagola, MI

906-869-3145